



09-12-06

Attorney's Docket No.: 17601-043001 / 067083.0205

JFW

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph A. Zupanick  
Serial No. : 10/630,345  
Filed : July 29, 2003  
Title : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING SUBTERRANEAN DEPOSITS  
FROM THE SURFACE AND TOOLS THEREFOR

Art Unit : 3673  
Examiner : John J. Kreck  
Conf. No. : 9309

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants request consideration of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), only copies of foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. Copies of any listed U.S. patents, U.S. applications or U.S. patent application publications can be provided upon request. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a related application is also enclosed.

This filing is being made within one month from the Request for Continued Examination filed August 21, 2006 and before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits. No fee is believed to be required. However, please apply any deficiencies or any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/11/06

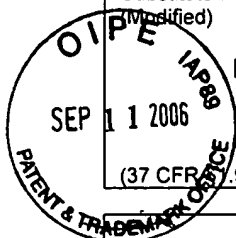
Joshua A. Griswold  
Reg. No. 46,310

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
1717 Main Street  
Suite 5000  
Dallas, Texas 75201  
Telephone: (214) 292-4034  
Facsimile: (214) 747-2091

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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 17601-043001	Application No. 10/630,345
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR 1.98(b))		Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick	
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### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A1	3,687,204	08/29/1972	Marshall et al.			
	A2	3,759,328	09/18/1973	Ueber et al.			
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	A7	5,664,911	09/09/1997	Bridges et al.			
	A8	5,733,067	03/31/1998	Hunt et al.			
	A9	6,581,455 B1	06/24/2003	Berger et al.			
	A10	6,581,685 B2	06/24/2003	Burgess et al.			
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	A15	2006/0096755 A1	05/11/2006	Zupanick			

### Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	B1	UA 37,720 A	05/15/2001	Ukraine			Spec Only	

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	C2	Rennick, et al., "Demonstration of Safety Plugging of Oil Wells Penetrating Appalachian Coal Mines," Bureau of Mines Coal Mine Health and Safety Research Program, Technical Progress Report - 56, U.S. Department of the Interior, July 1972, 25 pages
	C3	George N. Aul and Joseph Cervik, "Grouting Horizontal Drainage Holes in Coalbeds," RI 8375, Bureau of Mines Report of Investigations, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1979, 21 pages

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	C5	George S. Rice, "Notes on the Prevention of Dust and Gas Explosions in Coal Mines," Technical Paper 56, Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, copyright 1913, 12 pages
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	C75	Greg Nazzal, "Extended-Reach Wells Tap Outlying Reserves," WORLD OIL, March 1993, 8 pages
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	C77	S. Hovda, et al., "World's First Application of a Multilateral System Combining a Cased and Cemented Junction With Fullbore Access to Both Laterals," SPE 36488, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1996, 15 pages

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	C109	T.L. Logan, J.J. Schwoebel and D.M. Horner, "Application of Horizontal Drainhole Drilling Technology for Coalbed Methane Recovery," SPE/DOE 16409, Society of Petroleum Engineers/U.S. Department of Energy, Copyright 1997, 12 pages
	C110	Samuel O. Osisanya and Robert F. Schaffitzel, "A Review of Horizontal Drilling and Completion Techniques for Recovery of Coalbed Methane," SPE 37131, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1996, 13 pages
	C111	S.D. Joshi, "A Review of Horizontal Well and Drainhole Technology," SPE 16868, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1987, 17 pages
	C112	R. Bitto, A.B. Henderson and L. Broussard, "Recent Case Histories of New Well Applications for Horizontal Drilling," SPE 21262, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1990, 12 pages

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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 17601-043001	Application No. 10/630,345
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick	
		Filing Date July 29, 2003	Group Art Unit 3673
(37 CFR §1.98(b))			

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
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	C113	M.R. Konopczynski, John Hughes and J.E. Best, "A Novel Approach to Initiating Multi-Lateral Horizontal Wells," SPE/IADC 29385, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1996, 11 pages
	C114	Kelly Falk and Craig McDonald, "An Overview of Underbalanced Drilling Applications in Canada," SPE 30129, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1995, 9 pages
	C115	"Evolution Toward Simpler, Less Risky Multilateral Wells," WORLD OIL, prepared from paper SPE/IADC 67825 by Adam Pasicznyk, June 2001, 8 pages
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	C117	"Trilateral Horizontal Wells Add 10 Million bbl for Unocal," OFFSHORE, December 1993, 2 pages
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	C124	Margaret A. Adams, Jeanne L. Hewitt and Rodney D. Malone, "Coalbed Methane Potential of the Appalachians," SPE/DOE 10802, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1982, 10 pages
	C125	F.C. Schwerer and A.M. Pavone, "Effect of Pressure-Dependent Permeability on Well-Test Analyses and Long-Term Production of Methane From Coal Seams," SPE/DOE/GRI 12857, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1984, 10 pages
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	C130	Andre P. Jourdan and Guy A. Baron, "Elf Drills 1,000 + Ft Horizontally," PETROLEUM ENGINEER INTERNATIONAL, September 1981, 4 pages
	C131	P.F. Conti, "Controlled Horizontal Drilling," SPE/IADC 18708, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1989, 6 pages

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	C132	Armando R. Navarro, "Innovative Techniques Cut Costs in Wetlands Drilling," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, October 14, 1991, 4 pages
	C133	Victor M. Luhowy and Peter D. Sametz, "Horizontal Wells Prove Effective in Canadian Heavy-Oil Field," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, June 28, 1993, 6 pages
	C134	D. Lane Becker, "Project Management Improved Multiwell Shallow Gas Development," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, October 16, 1995, 5 pages
	C135	Mike R. Chambers, "Junction Design Based on Operational Requirements," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, December 7, 1998, 7 pages
	C136	A.J. Branch, et al., "Remote Real-Time Monitoring Improves Orinoco Drilling Efficiency," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, May 28, 2001, 6 pages
	C137	D. Keith Murray, "Deep Coals Hold Big Part of Resource," THE AMERICAN OIL & GAS REPORTER, May 2002, 8 pages
	C138	Nestor Rivera, et al., "Multilateral, Intelligent Well Completion Benefits Explored," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, April 14, 2003, 10 pages
	C139	HANDBOOK ON COAL BED METHANE PRODUCED WATER: MANAGEMENT AND BENEFICIAL USE ALTERNATIVES, prepared by ALL Consulting, July 2003, 321 pages
	C140	Nikola Maricic, "Parametric and Predictive Analysis of Horizontal Well Configurations for Coalbed Methane Reservoirs in Appalachian Basin," Thesis, West Virginia University, Department of Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering, 2004, 162 pages
	C141	Nikola Maricic, Shahab D. Mohaghegh, and Emre Artun, "A Parametric Study on the Benefits of Drilling Horizontal and Multilateral Wells in Coalbed Methane Reservoirs," SPE 96018, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 2005, 8 pages
	C142	D.P. Schlick and J.W. Stevenson, "Methane Degasification Experience at Jim Walter's," Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Institute on Coal Mining Health, Safety and Research, August 25-27, 1981, 9 pages
	C143	P.C. Thakur, "Optimum Methane Drainage in Gassy Coal Mines," 2003 SME Annual Meeting, copyright 2003 by SME, 4 pages
	C144	Global Methane and the Coal Industry: A Two-Part Report on Methane Emissions from the Coal Industry and Coalbed Methane Recovery and Use, Coal Industry Advisory Board, International Energy Agency, copyright 1994, 72 pages
	C145	Paul F. Conti and Michael Schumacher, "Solution Mining in the Nineties," Presented at the Fall 1991 meeting of the Solution Mining Research Institute, October 27-30, 1991, 11 pages
	C146	Notification of Transmittal of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (1 page), International Preliminary Report on Patentability (7 pages) and Amended Sheets (10 pages for International Application No. PCT/US2004/012029 mailed August 11, 2005
	C147	Pratt et al., U.S. Patent Application entitled "Cavity Well System," S/N 11/141,335, May 31, 2005, 19 pages

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